CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	tree1
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1900104.033
Medium:	Image File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	English
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	30 May 2019
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	29 May 2019

Summary of reasons for decision:

'The image file is a comic strip that explicitly depicts child characters from 'The Simpsons' television series engaged in sexual activity with each other and, in one case, with an adult. The image does not promote and support the exploitation of children under s3(2)(a) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993, but it does deal with sexual conduct involving children to a high extent and degree. It has the clear potential for attitudinal harm, by perpetuating the idea that sexual conduct involving children is a subject of titillation and amusement. There is a strong likelihood of injury to the public good from the trivialisation of such behaviour and attitudes, which is likely to have a detrimental effect on wider society. The classification of objectionable interferes with the right to freedom of expression as affirmed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but is justifiable given the high risk of injury to the public good which cannot be adequately prevented by an age restriction.